

Janice K. Brewer
Governor

Victoria Christiansen
State Forester

Arizona State Forestry Division

Office of the State Forester
1110 W. Washington St., Suite 100
Phoenix, AZ 85007
(602) 771-1400



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For immediate release

For more information:

Cam Hunter 602-771-1416 or cell 602-463-829

Fire restrictions on State Trust Lands

PHOENIX, ARIZONA –Fire and smoking restrictions are being implemented by the State Forestry Division beginning tomorrow at 12:00pm noon (Wednesday, May 26th) and running through July 31st or until further notice.

The restrictions have become necessary due to increased fire danger from developing hot, dry weather conditions and heavy vegetation growth. As brush and grasses dry out, they become fuel for fire and greatly increase the risk of major wildfires.

The prohibition will apply to all State Trust Lands within Maricopa, Pinal, Yuma, and La Paz Counties as well as the southern portions of Gila and Yavapai Counties. (Area description and map attached)

The restrictions are as follows:

- Building, maintaining, or using a fire, campfire, or charcoal burning device is prohibited. (Petroleum-fueled stoves, lanterns, or heating devices are **exempt** from these restrictions.);
- Use of fireworks as defined by Title 36, Public Health and Safety (ARS § 36-1601) is prohibited;
- Smoking is prohibited except within an enclosed vehicle, building, developed campground, or in an area at least 10 feet in diameter that is barren or cleared of all flammable materials;
- Welding or operating acetylene or other torch with an open flame is prohibited.

These restrictions apply to everyone with permits and leases issued by the State Land Department and holders of hunting and fishing licenses. State, Federal, and local fire and law enforcement officers, plus members of organized firefighting forces are exempt from these prohibitions while in the performance of official duties.

Information and tips on wildfire safety and preparedness can be found at:

www.azsf.az.gov

http://www.azsf.az.gov/fire_information/default.asp

(more)

Arizona State Forestry Division
Fire Restrictions - Area Description

Maricopa County: All State Trust Lands

Pinal County: All State Trust Lands

Gila County: All State Trust Lands south of State Highway 60

Yuma County: All State Trust Lands

La Paz County: All State Trust Lands

Yavapai County: All State Trust Lands in the lower elevations with an approximate northern boundary following State Highway 93 south to County Highway 97, County Highway 97 northeast to County Highway 96, County Highway 96 east to Kirkland Hillside Road, Kirkland Hillside Road southeast to State Highway 89, State Highway 89 to the Prescott National Forest western boundary, then progressing to the south, east, and then north following the Prescott National Forest boundary to State Highway 69 near Cordes Junction, then due east to the Tonto National Forest western boundary, then easterly along the Tonto National Forest western boundary to the Maricopa County line.